Development Management – Delegated Officer Report **Date; 15/01/2025**

Application Number	**AWDM/1355/24**
Address	**2 Willow Crescent Worthing West Sussex BN13 2SU**
Proposal	**Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No.13 of 1997 to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 7 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, and crown thin 25% one Black Poplar tree T1.**

Date of site visit: n/a

Neighbours checked: Y
Additional neighbour notifications: N
Site notice: (wider publicity / conservation area): N

Proposal, Site and Surroundings

The application refers to a large tall mature Black Poplar located near the Northeast corner of the rear of the rear garden close to the pavement of Columbia Drive. The tree is a prominent part of the street scene and makes a significant contribution to the character and visual amenities of the area.

Consent is sought to reduce crown height and radial spread, crown lift, and crown thin one Black Poplar tree T1.

The reasons for the works are primarily in the interests of safety, light issues and amenity value.

Consultations: None.

Representations: None received.

Relevant Planning History

1997: Worthing Tree Preservation order Number 13 of 1997 confirmed on 24/04/1997.

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order No. 13/1997 to fell one Black Poplar tree (T1) Refused.

2004: Application for consent under Worthing Tree Preservation Order 13/1997 to crown reduce by 9 metres, reduce spread by 5 metres and clean out crown to one Black Poplar (T1

Planning Assessment

The tree is a large mature Black Poplar growing in the rear garden adjacent to the grass verge of the north side of Columbia Drive. The tree is prominent to the area, and can be seen from many views.

The tree has large diameter twin stems from ground level that are tightly forked, becoming more separate from 3 metres. The West stem has been reduced at 10 metres with the larger central stem persisting to 12 metres. The re-growth are groups of long slender stems that extend to the top. The first laterals emerge from 6 metres with some lower epicormic growth. The main crown is dense and wide spread with some over extended laterals.

The proposed works are to reduce crown height by up to 5 metres, reduce radial spread by up to 7 metres, crown lift up to 5 metres, and crown thin 25%. The works are to contain the size and spread of the tree crown, allow access beneath and allow more light and air to pass through the crown.

These works in my opinion would be relatively minor in relation to the overall size, spread and crown form of the tree and would not significantly or adversely affect its appearance, amenity value, or its contribution to the character of the area.

Recommendation

APPROVE

Grant Consent, subject to the following Conditions:

1. Approved plans

2. The proposed works, hereby permitted, shall be restricted to those specified in the application only unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority and carried out within two years from the date of consent and in accordance with the British Standard BS 3998: 2010 Tree Work.

   Reason: *In the interest of visual amenity.*

Is recommendation contrary to letter(s) of representation?

No

Case Officer: JDS Date:15/01/2025

Authorised by: Jo Morin Date: 16.01.2025